

lived to go their own gait. The shootings, some of the most valuable in England, were left to syndicates of pseudo sportsmen who depleted the coverts of every head of game in them, and the great lake of nearly 200 acres in extent was allowed to become a marsh of reeds and rushes. All this is now altered. The game is closely preserved and the magnificent stretch of water has been dredged and put in order at an expense which has been calculated at nearly \$200,000.

The stables now contain such a number of horses as have not been housed at Blenheim for many a year, but throughout Oxfordshire, where there are so many packs of hounds, some of them among the most celebrated in England, regret is felt that up to the present the Duchess Consuelo has not participated in the delights of the chase. Her Grace has, however, proved herself to be an ardent cyclist, and almost every morning she may be seen riding her bicycle along the miles of well-kept road-way which intersect the park. This, however, does not appeal to the country people in anything like the same degree as a passion for equestrianism would.

Week of Entertaining.

The royal party which will assemble tomorrow will not break up until next Saturday. Day by day there will be shooting parties, and it will be interesting to note how far the efforts of the Marlborough keepers and providers have succeeded in stocking the demesne with game after its long-continued period of working-out and general depletion. Of ground game there is undoubtedly an abundance, but of winged varieties the returns are scarcely likely to be so handsome.

The Marquis of Londonderry arrived at the palace last evening, to be followed by the Marchioness, and their daughter and the other guests to-morrow. The week's festivities, most unfortunately, are overshadowed by the gloom caused by the death of Mrs. Vanderbilt.

Fetes for Each Day.

For each day a series of fetes has been arranged, and it was intended that they should terminate with a county ball on Friday night. Mrs. Vanderbilt's death, however, rendered the latter plan impossible, but the Duchess, unwilling altogether to disappoint her friends, has arranged to have on that evening a reception and concert, at which the guests who were originally invited to the ball will be present.

This morning the Duchess of Marlborough and the Duke's eldest sister, Lady Lillian Spencer Churchill, were present at the Anglican Church of St. Mary Magdalene, in Woodstock. Her Grace, who received the salutations of the villagers as she alighted from her carriage at the entrance to the park, wore a handsome gown of black velvet. The skirt was accented over which she had a black cloth cape, with thick chiffon ruffling for a collar. She carried a large muff, also of black, and wore a bonnet of violet velvet with asprey plumes.

The approaching fetes at Blenheim recall the magnificent one given by the Countess de Castellane, nee Anna Gombel, and her husband on Thursday evening, July 2. This was the greatest social event of the year in Paris. The Castellanes hired the Jardin des Acacias in the Bois de Boulogne and, as it had rained nearly all day, the grass was covered with more than 1,300 yards of carpet.

A stage was built over the little lake used by skaters in the winter, and here a ballet was given with dancers and orchestra from the Grand Opera House. Ten thousand Chinese lanterns and a myriad of incandescent lamps hung in the trees. Three thousand gilt chairs were made especially for the guests.

The floral decorations were superb. The Count and Countess received in an imitation palace built of flowers. A dinner, at which 150 guests were present, preceded the fete. The entertainment was brought to a close with a most elaborate display of fireworks.

MRS. CRAVEN

Continued from First Page.

the only chance to win, either by compromise or a fight in court.

The consent of Dr. Livingston was readily obtained, when he was promised a sum equal to what he would have obtained as executor of the will, or about \$60,000.

Compromise Yet Probable.

While both sides now claim that there will be no compromise, it is well known that Mrs. Craven and her representatives have been and are eager to reach an understanding without a legal battle in court, and the children of Mr. Fair have shown a

disposition to meet these advances more than half way. Both are again in a mood to discuss a compromise.

The true facts and an explanation of the withdrawal of the will will constitute, perhaps, the most interesting phase of this great case. Mrs. Craven and Dr. Livingston united their forces several months ago, with the distinct understanding that neither would retire from the field, under terms of compromise, without insisting on a settlement of the other's claim.

After Mrs. Craven and Fair's children quarrelled the putative widow of the millionaire had very little to gain and a great deal to hazard in an attempt to probate the pencilled will. On the other hand, Dr. Livingston, as an executor under the terms of that will, is interested in the probate of the document because of his fees, worth about \$50,000 or \$60,000. The attorneys of Mrs. Craven did not like the story of the mysterious disappearance of the ink will that was to have taken the place of the pencilled will. It certainly was not impossible that the ink will had been stolen from Mrs. Craven on her way across the continent, but there was a disagreeable prospect that a jury might consider the story improbable. The testimony of experts was to be used to cloud the issue.

All these disadvantages, independent of any proof of forgery that might exist, were patent. By forcing the issue on this will, after hope of compromise had vanished, Mrs. Craven placed her deeds, and with them her prospects of a slice of the big estate in jeopardy. The representative of Mrs. Craven argued that if the second will were thrown out of court as forged the deeds would fall by the same judgment. Dr. Livingston has agreed to abide by the issue in reference to the deeds and to receive from Mrs. Craven, in the event of her success, a sum equal to what his fees would have amounted to had the will been probated.

Contest Over the Deeds.

The big fight has simplified itself into a contest over the deeds. The experts consider them bogus, but that was expected. They have not been taken into the confidence of Mrs. Craven, and do not know that no effort will be made to prove that Fair wrote the body of the deeds. Mrs. Craven's representatives expect to prove that Fair simply signed them.

Judge Slack on Friday ordered Mrs. Craven to produce the deeds and submit them for the inspection of experts imported from New York for the other side.

Miss Marjorie Craven, daughter of the plaintiff in this sensational case, came to San Francisco in order to assist her mother in her fight for part of Fair's estate, which short time ago she left the city rather suddenly.

She went to New York, from which city the young lady sailed for Europe, and is now on her way to Egypt. She expects to make an extended trip up the Nile.

Miss Craven is an actress, and for a time was a member of the Lyceum Theatre Company in New York.

Weyler Grants a Respite.

Continued from First Page.

ever, the Government, it is believed, has cabled General Weyler at great length, and it now seems possible that he may remain in Cuba.

Even the Spanish press has been carefully kept in the dark concerning the Government's plans concerning the Captain-General, which shows the uneasiness of the authorities.

Every one believes that something startling was impending, which now, perhaps for the moment, has been postponed rather than definitely averted.

All the news arriving from Spanish colonies is depressing. It is a common knowledge that the tinder of revolt may be lighted at any moment in Porto Rico, while General Eschale, who has just returned from the Philippines, tells a dreadful story of war.

He thinks that the rebellion in the Philippines is a very serious one, and that more troops are needed there in order to carry out the policy of energetic repression inaugurated by Spain. He says that General Blanco ought to have already finished his campaign, and hints that he (Blanco) is a "military muddler."

Spanish homecoming residents accuse the insurgents of horrible atrocities, but General Eschale hints enough to show that the campaign is not conducted by rosewater methods on either side.

Trolley Car Smashes Carriage.

Jacobus Hengenveld, a lively stable keeper at Rutherford, N. J., drove a Passale party home last evening, and while returning was run down by a trolley car at Lakeview, a suburb of Paterson. The car crashed into the carriage, smashing it into splinters. Hengenveld was hurled into a ditch on the side of the road and the horse was knocked down and severely cut. Hengenveld's face was cut and his body badly bruised.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Broom Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

Advs.

SOCIETY GIRLS AS BLACK MINSTRELS.

They'll Not Wear Bloomers; But Their Skirts Will Not Drag a Bit.

Prof. Ferrie Told Them the Dresses Must Be Short; How Short Is Still a Secret.

For Charity's Sake These Newark Lasses Consented to Blacken Their Pretty Faces.

BONES, TAMBOS AND END WOMEN.

Nearly All Sing in Choirs, So a Great Musical Feast and Some Really New Jokes Are Promised in the Show.

The loveliest girls of three counties in New Jersey—a State famous for the beauty of its girls—will assemble in Newark on the afternoon of Thanksgiving Day to give a minstrel performance for charity.

The affair has been arranged by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the C. Y. M. A. of Newark, but among the thirty-five girls who



Newark Girls to Sing as Minstrels.

They'll not appear in the costumes shown in these pictures. In fact, they had quite an argument over the skirt question—the length, you know. But for charity's sake, these beauties finally consented to blacken their faces. Nearly all sing in choirs, so some good music and really new jokes are promised.

will take part there will be many residents of other towns.

Most of these girls sing in the church choirs. All are young. All have red cheeks. All are very demure. In fact, they are all exceedingly delightful. But this short skirt business—well, you see, it was like this:

Professor Joseph Ferrie, of Jersey City, in a thoughtless moment, undertook the task of conducting the rehearsals of this show.

"Ladies," said he, "I want you all to understand that a minstrel show is—so to speak, er—a minstrel show."

"Which nobody could deny."

"And female minstrels cannot be real female minstrels without wearing the kind of apparel that er—female minstrels wear."

"Of course," cried the girls together. Thereupon the professor closed his eyes and, with a courage born of desperation, blurted out:

"Short skirts!"

"Oh-h-h-h," exclaimed the girls.

"Yes," said the professor, greatly relieved, "you must!"

"How short?" asked a dozen beauties.

"Oh, er—quite short. Yes; very short. In fact, extremely short!"

"Never!" was the unanimous reply. Thereupon the professor felt greatly relieved, for, being a wise man, he knew that, when a woman says "Never," it's sure to come out all right.

"We will hold a council of war," said Miss Jennie McLaughlin.

"Or, rather, a council of war," remarked Miss May Hackett.

"Down to the ankles," suggested one girl.

"Oh, the shoetops will be good enough," replied another.

In the opening part there will be eight sets of songs, and a chorus of songs.

Those who will sing as soloists are Miss Frances Lawless, the well-known contralto of Paterson; Miss Pauline Charters, of Elizabeth; and the Misses Therese Iwetz and Annie Kelly, of this city.

"Bruder Bones" will be Miss Nellie Devay, Miss Nellie Walsh, Miss Kate Iwetz and Miss Annie Kelly, of Elizabeth Dalton will act as interlocutors.

In the chorus will be the Misses Jennie McLaughlin, Mammie Harkins, Evelyn Fulton, Minnie Sullivan, May Hackett, Annie Noon, Cella Huggins, Nellie Farley, Mammie Higgins, Annie Crowley, Elizabeth O'Connor, Rose McAtiney, Sadie Gleason, Jennie Hackett, May O'Neil, Carrie Cody, Mammie McLaughlin, Mammie Duffy, Loretta Kelly, Rose Trapper and Maggie Green.

The chorus will be entirely of trained choir singers.

Then the Olio.

Following the first part will be an olio. In this specialties will be introduced by Miss Elizabeth Dooley, soprano, of St. James's choir; Miss Maggie Law, of St. Anthony's choir; Miss Elizabeth Dalton, Miss Mammie Ogden, Jennie and Kittie McLaughlin, Gertrude Hill, Annie Duffy, Corn Farley and Little Ebo Perry.

As four counties—Essex, Hudson, Union and Passaic—are represented on the programme, the interest is intense.

The committee in charge of the minstrel performance consists of the Misses Alice Dempsey, May Harkins, May V. Sheerin, Rosemary Ryan, Minnie Sullivan, Loretta Kelly, Elizabeth O'Connor, Rose Seaton, Nellie Farley, Mammie Smith and Agnes McGovern.

BRYAN AT HIS HOME AGAIN.

Starts for Denver This Morning, but Hopes to Return by Thanksgiving.

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 22.—William J. Bryan reached home to-night at 7 o'clock, after an uneventful trip from Kansas City. Except to members of his family it was not known that he would arrive to-night, and he was well satisfied that such was the case. Mr. Bryan is looking and feeling well. His outing in the Ozarks was pleasurable, the company congenial and the trip was thoroughly enjoyed.

He will leave early to-morrow evening for Denver, arriving there Tuesday morning, and hopes to start back in time so as to be able to eat his Thanksgiving dinner at home. After his return from Denver, his programme has not been outlined.

The suit in the Supreme Court in which he is interested—enjoining the city of Lincoln from issuing gold refunding bonds—has been advanced on the docket, and Mr. Bryan may appear personally in that case.

When the city, months ago, was given power to issue \$200,000 in refunding bonds, a proviso was inserted calling for payment in gold. Mr. Bryan and O. M. Humphrey, enjoiner of the City Council on the ground that the gold stipulation was contrary to Lincoln's charter provisions, and they won their case in the District Court. The City Council appealed to the Supreme Court.

GHOST OF JONAH HAUNTS OUR NAVY.

The Crack Cruiser New York Is the Last Victim of Its Caprice.

An Odd Leak Discovered Which Will Necessitate Some Overhauling.

Remarkable Series of Misfortunes Which Have Befallen Uncle Sam's Ships.

TEXAS THE HARDEST HIT OF ALL.

Sinking of the Big Battle Ship Followed Closely the Wrecking of Dry Dock No. 2 and the Mishap to the New Dock.

Near the new Navy Yard gate there



is a cigar shop kept by a "Don" as loyal to Spain as any in the infant King's domain. Since the talk of war he listens to the gossip of the blue-jacketed tars with as much interest as a spy at a keyhole.

Whenever he hears of the Navy Jonah being aboard again, he tickles his ribs and grins. He has had plenty of opportunities to do so recently. Yesterday he actually roared with laughter. That was because he had been led to believe that the crack cruiser New York, the pride of Gotham, because of the name, and the joy of Uncle Sam, on account of the ship's stability, had been disabled while at dock and never a shot fired.

On board the cruiser, however, every tar from the middles to the captain, asserted that the big white ship is good for a chase on a half hour's notice after anything Spain has adroit.

It was not denied, however, that salt water has been dripping where salt water should never be. It has been oozing out of some place in the condenser ejection pipe. This pipe extends from the condenser valves to an outlet just below the water line on the starboard side. The water enters through a pipe near the ship's bottom. It rushes up and circles around a steam pipe to condense the steam. By its own pressure the salt water is forced out through the four-inch ejection pipe just below the water line. This pipe passes through a three-foot coal bunker.

A Leak Discovered.

It was discovered the other day that there was a leak and that water was dripping on the coal. As the ship was going into dry dock it was decided that it would be best to wait until after she was docked before making a thorough investigation.

It is the opinion of the officers that the trouble was caused by electrolytic action. Had it been in the injection pipe, the injury if not quickly discovered might have been as serious as that of the unfortunate battleship Texas.

Still the injury was sufficient to lead some of the sailors to conclude that the navy Jonah, either in spirit or material form, has gone aboard the New York. That Jonah has caused as much trouble within the last few months, as naval warfare. Vessels have suffered from accident nearly as much as if in action, and Uncle Sam's mending bills have been something tremendous.

The Texas has been most unfortunate. There is a standing joke over at the Navy Yard that she doesn't like water because of her name. About a year ago her bottom plates were buckled while she was in dry dock. This was caused by the pressure on the keel blocks. It required several weeks to repair the damage, and to avoid any similar accidents plans are being made to strengthen the weak points.

In September the Texas struck on a bar while entering the harbor, and was fast for twenty-four hours. She got off without damage. Less than two months later she sank in the mud of the Wallabout because of the bursting of her main injection valve. If the accident had occurred in midocean the ship would have been sent out of sight as fast as a thirteen-cent stream of water could do so.

Even while being built the Texas was

haunted. One man plunged to death from her deck while she was on the ways, and several were fatally hurt. Her engines were scorched in a fire at the Richmond Iron Works, and her propeller was broken on her first trip to the yard. In her dock trial she swamped a lumber schooner with the swash from her screw.

More of Fortune's Caprice.

The most serious of the recent naval accidents was the wrecking of the dry dock No. 2 at the Brooklyn yard. It was caused by the removal of ballast from the caisson. The ends of the caisson rose three feet above the water of the dock, which was empty, and the pressure was so great that the water gate was turned. The flood coming in covered the torpedo boat Ericsson, which was badly damaged; the commandant's barge, which was sunk; a hoisting derrick and a stone barge, and a scow loaded with lumber, which went to the bottom.

After the accident the prov of the Ericsson resembled an elephant's head, minus the trunk and trunk. The torpedo tube was bent and battered, as if it were made of tin, and the steel plates on about twelve feet of the prow were as wrinkled as a rhinoceros's hide. The blades of the starboard propeller were badly bent, and the general appearance of the craft was such that the enemy had battered her to pieces with a ram.

At the investigation testimony was given to show that the accident was due to the principles of maritime science. The court-martial decided, however, that Civil Engineers Menoel and White were to blame, and Secretary Herbert reprimanded them.

Within a few days it has been discovered that the new dry dock, the construction of which was supposed to be practically completed, is in a dangerous condition. The weakness was caused by the massive timbers constituting the steps at the head of the dock bulging out of place in several parts of the structure. The trouble, it is stated, was due to faulty plans. In all probability the dock will be useless for several months. Should such battleships as the Massachusetts and Indiana have to be dry docked, it would be necessary to take them to either Port Royal or Halifax.

The Indiana has not had such hard luck as some of her sister ships, but she is young yet. Her plates were buckled by a fire in her bunkers not long ago, and a big work was caused by the fact that the fire was near a powder magazine.

Ships Still Popular.

While the Maine was at Key West last August ten of her plates along the port side of her keel were bent because the anchor did not penetrate the coral bed and fouled the most popular ship, and her deck was pierced at Norfolk.

Notwithstanding this array of misfortunes the Navy has been busy. The USS Oregon, the roads of Brooklyn, apparently, led yesterday to the Navy Yard. Visitors were in the new gate in streams. The New York was the most popular ship, and her deck was covered during visiting hours by the patriots who were anxious to get a look at the big fighting machines that may some day have a chance to show what they are worth.

The activity of the department in getting vessels ready for service is shown by the fact that a dry dock at Erie Bay has been engaged for the Ericsson, at which repairs to her will be made.

Captain Glass, of the Texas, is now in Washington where he was called for a consultation with regard to the battle ship. It was stated that the Texas will not join the squadron before January.

A LIVING DEATH.

Continued from First Page.

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